

REMARKS

The Office action of February 4, 2009, has been carefully considered.

Objection has been raised to the drawings, and a new set of drawings (5 sheets) has been added to the application in an attempt to correct the inconsistencies between the specification and the drawings.

Objection has been raised to the specification, and a substitute specification is attached hereto in clean and marked-up forms, adding proper subject matter headings as well as a brief description of the drawings. In addition, the specification has been amended to include subject matter which was found originally on pages 5 and 6 of the PCT publication on which the present application is based, but which was inadvertently deleted with the cancellation of Claims 1 and 2 as originally filed. Accordingly, the addition of this information does not constitute new matter.

Claims 3-4 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Shum.

Claims 3-4 have been canceled, and replaced by a new set of claims 5-10.

The Shum reference discloses a frame structure for an under-skate assembly, including a plurality of openings. The assembly is constructed in such a manner to damp vibrations, for example, from poor ice surfaces or from puck impact, as disclosed at column 4, lines 45-48. The construction is not, however, thought to be "resilient."

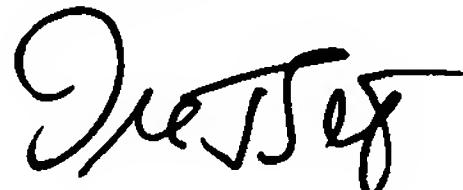
According to the invention as claimed, the frame structure is resilient, so as to flex and make the skate blade flatten when weight is applied to the frame structure. This flexing, and flattening of the blade with a commensurate increase in the length of the sliding surface, is not thought

to occur with the structure of Shum.

Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance. An early allowance of the application with amended claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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